

59. (Thrice Amended) A computer-readable recording medium storing a program for acquiring information from a selected network device of a plurality of network devices, and displaying the acquired information, the program comprising:

program code for a first display step of acquiring a first information of a selected network device and of displaying the first information on an initial screen of a device window; and

program code of a second display step of acquiring, in response to a user request for display of a second information of the device window, the second information from the selected network device and of displaying the second information on a second screen different from the initial screen.

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated July 16, 2002. Claims 1-7, 22, 24, 25, 57-60, 62, 64-69, 74, 75, 77-79, 84, 85, and 87-89 are presented for examination. Claims 1-6 and 57-59, which are the only claims in independent form, have been amended to define more clearly what Applicants regard as their invention. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

An Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) and a corresponding PTO-1449 form were submitted in this application on June 10, 2002, as evidenced by the receipt postcard bearing the stamp of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, a copy of which is attached hereto. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to return an initialed copy of the PTO-1449 form,

indicating the reference cited thereon has been considered.

Additionally, Applicants noticed that the initialed copy of the PTO-1449 form from the IDS submitted on May 23, 2000, which was returned with the Office Action dated January 18, 2001, does not include the Examiner's initials on the last cited reference: "Operation Manual of Printer Drive for Microsoft Windows 95, pp. 22-43, © 1995," as shown on the attached copy of the initialed PTO-1449 form. Also attached is a copy of the receipt postcard, indicating that five (5) references were submitted with the May 23rd IDS. Applicants respectfully request return of a copy of the PTO-1449 form with the last cited reference initialed, indicating that it has been considered and made of record in this application.

The Office Action rejected Claims 1-7, 22, 24, 25, 57-60, 62, 64-69, 74, 75, 77-79, 84, 85, and 87-89 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,778,377 (Marlin et al.). Applicants submit that independent Claims 1-6 and 57-59, together with the claims dependent thereon, are patentably distinct from Marlin et al. for at least the following reasons.

The aspect of the present invention set forth in Claim 1 is directed to a method of acquiring and displaying information related to a selected network device of a plurality of network devices. According to the method, a first information related to the selected network device is acquired and displayed on an initial screen of a device window, which is a window allocated to the selected network device. After displaying the first information, and in response to a user request for display of a second screen different from the initial screen, a second information different from the first information is acquired from the selected network device and

displayed on the second screen.

One important feature of Claim 1 is that, when the user requests display of the second screen, after the first information related to the selected network device is displayed on the first screen, the second information is acquired from the selected network and displayed on the second screen, which is different from the first screen. That is, according to Claim 1, when the second screen, different from the first screen, is requested by the user after the first information is displayed on the first screen, the second information is acquired from the selected network device and displayed on the second screen.

Marlin et al., as understood by Applicants, relates to a graphical user interface (GUI) for workstations on a network in which a complex operation is controlled. Apparently, Marlin et al. discloses that a data/time status on a window is updated when a status timer message is received (see column 15, lines 59-60), and also discloses that a display is updated when any change occurs after receiving a polling timer message and performing a row polling or a column polling.

Nothing has been found in Marlin et al. that is believed to teach or suggest a method of acquiring and displaying information related to a selected network device of a plurality of network devices, wherein the method includes "a second display step of acquiring, in response to a user request for display of a second screen different from the initial screen after displaying the first information, a second information, different from the first information, from the selected network device and displaying the second information on the second screen," as recited in Claim 1. Applicants submit that Marlin et al. is silent about a second screen, which is

different from a first screen that displays first information related to a selected network device, wherein the second screen displays second information different from the first information and acquired from a selected network device when requested by a user after the first information is displayed.

The Office Action asserts that columns 14-16 disclose the features of Claim 1. Applicants submit, however, that nothing has been found in columns 14-16 that is believed to even suggest acquiring information *from a selected network device* of a plurality of network devices in response to a user request for display of a second, different screen. As best understood by Applicants, Marlin et al. merely discloses the use of a central database (DMI) that stores objects for a complex operation, in which various management applications at various nodes on a network may access the same data in the central database for different purposes (see, for example, the abstract; and column 9, lines 39-42). Thus, Marlin et al. is understood to teach the acquisition of information from a single database and not from a selected network device of a plurality of network devices.

Accordingly, in view of the above remarks, Applicants submit that Claim 1 is not anticipated by Marlin et al., and respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e). Independent Claims 2 and 3 are apparatus and storage medium claims corresponding to Claim 1, and are believed to be patentable for at least the same reasons as discussed above. Additionally, independent Claims 4-6 and 57-59 include a feature similar to that discussed above, in which, when a second screen, different from a first screen, is requested by a user after a first information is displayed on the first screen, the second information is

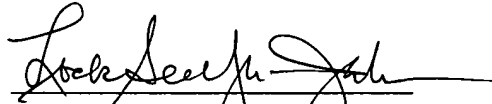
acquired from a selected network device and displayed on the second screen. Therefore, those claims are believed to be patentable for at least the same reasons as discussed above.

The other rejected claims in this application depend from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and, therefore, are submitted to be patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, individual reconsideration of the patentability of each claim on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,


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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE TO CLAIMS

1. (Amended Five Times) A displaying method of acquiring information related to a selected network device of [the] a plurality of network devices, and displaying acquired information of the selected network device, said method comprising:

a first display step of acquiring a first information related to the selected network device and displaying the first information on an initial screen of a device window, which is a window allocated to the selected network device; and

a second display step of acquiring, in response to a user request for display of a second screen [of the device window] different from the initial screen after displaying the first information, a second information, different from the first information, from the selected network device and displaying the second information on the second screen.

2. (Amended Five Times) A network device control apparatus for acquiring information related to a selected network device of [the] a plurality of network devices, and displaying acquired information of the selected network device, comprising:

a first display unit for acquiring a first information related to the selected network device and displaying the first information on an initial screen of a device window, which is a window allocated to the selected network device; and

a second display unit for acquiring, in response to a user request for display of a second screen [of the device window] different from the initial screen after displaying the first

information, a second information [that is], different from the first information [and that is related to the selected network device], from the selected network device[,], and displaying the second information on the second screen.

3. (Amended Five Times) A computer-readable recording medium storing a program for implementing an acquiring method of acquiring information related to a selected network device of [the] a plurality of network devices, and a displaying method of displaying acquired information, the program comprising:

program code for a first display step of acquiring a first information related to the selected network device and displaying the first information on an initial screen of a device window, which is a window allocated to the selected network device; and

program code for a second display step of acquiring, in response to a user request for display of a second screen [of the device window] different from the initial screen after displaying the first information, a second information [that is], different from the first information [and that is related to the selected network device], from the selected network device[,], and displaying the second information on the second screen.

4. (Twice Amended) A network device control method comprising:

an initial sheet information acquisition and display step of acquiring and displaying initial sheet information on an initial screen of a device window, which is a window allocated to individual network peripheral devices on a one-to-one basis;

a separate sheet information list making step of making a list of separate sheet information not consisting of the initial sheet information acquired and displayed in said initial sheet information acquisition and display step;

an acquisition sheet information decision step of deciding a sheet information list to acquire from separate sheet information lists made in said separate sheet information list making step;

a different sheet information acquisition and display step of, when it is determined that an entry has been made by a user requesting display of a different type of sheet information, acquiring and displaying different types of newly requested sheet information on a [device window] second screen different from the initial screen opened in said initial sheet information acquisition and display step;

an all sheet information acquisition decision step of deciding whether all sheet information has been acquired;

a single sheet information acquisition decision step of deciding, when it is found in said all sheet information acquisition decision step that not all information has been acquired, whether all current acquisition of sheet information has ended based on a result of said acquisition sheet information decision step;

a sheet information list status change step of changing a sheet information list status of previously acquired information when it is decided in said single sheet information acquisition decision step that all current acquisition of sheet information has ended; and

a network device information acquisition step of acquiring network device

information when it is decided in said single sheet information acquisition step that not all current acquisition of sheet information has ended.

5. (Twice Amended) A network device control apparatus comprising:

an initial sheet information acquisition and display unit for acquiring and displaying initial sheet information on an initial screen of a device window, which is a window allocated to individual network peripheral devices on a one-to-one basis;

a separate sheet information list making unit for making a list of separate sheet information not consisting of the initial sheet information acquired and displayed by said initial sheet information acquisition and display unit;

an acquisition sheet information decision unit for deciding a sheet information list to acquire from separate sheet information lists made by said separate sheet information list making unit;

a different sheet acquisition and display unit for, when it is determined that an entry has been made by a user requesting display of a different type of sheet information, acquiring and displaying different types of newly requested sheet information on a [device window] second screen different from the initial screen opened by said initial sheet information acquisition and display unit;

an all sheet information acquisition decision unit for deciding whether all sheet information has been acquired;

a single sheet information acquisition decision unit for deciding, when it is found

by said all sheet information acquisition decision unit that not all sheet information has been acquired, whether all current acquisition of sheet information has ended based on a result from said acquisition sheet information decision unit;

a sheet information list status change unit for changing a sheet information list status of previously acquired information when decided by said single sheet information acquisition decision unit that all current acquisition of sheet information has ended; and

a network device information acquisition unit for acquiring network device information when it is decided by said single sheet information acquisition unit that not all current acquisition of sheet information has ended.

6. (Twice Amended) A computer-readable recording medium storing a program for implementing a network device control method, the program comprising:

program code for an initial sheet information acquisition and display step of acquiring and displaying initial sheet information on an initial screen of a device window, which is a window allocated to individual network peripheral devices on a one-to-one basis;

program code for a separate sheet information list making step of making a list of separate sheet information not consisting of the initial sheet information acquired and displayed in said initial sheet information acquisition and display step;

program code for an acquisition sheet information decision step of deciding a sheet information list to acquire from separate sheet information lists made in the separate sheet information list making step;

program code for a different sheet information acquisition and display step of, when it is determined that an entry has been made by a user requesting display of a different type of sheet information, acquiring and displaying different types of newly requested sheet information on a [device window] second screen different from the initial screen opened in the initial sheet information acquisition and display step;

program code for an all sheet information acquisition decision step of deciding whether all sheet information has been acquired;

program code for a single sheet information acquisition decision step of deciding, when it is found in the all sheet information acquisition decision step that not all information has been acquired, whether acquisition of all current sheet information has ended based on a result of the acquisition sheet information decision step;

program code for a sheet information list status change step of changing a sheet information list status of previously acquired information when decided in the single sheet information acquisition decision step that all current acquisition of sheet information has ended; and

program code for a network device information acquisition step of acquiring network device information when it is decided in the single sheet information acquisition step that not all current acquisition of sheet information has ended.

57. (Amended Four Times) A method of acquiring information of a selected network device of [the] a plurality of network devices, and displaying the acquired information,

said method comprising:

a first display step of acquiring a first information of a selected network device and of displaying the first information on a first area of a device window; and

a second display step of acquiring, in response to a user request for display of a second information of the selected network device on a second area different from the first area after displaying the first information, the second information from the selected network device and of displaying the second information on the second area of the device window,

wherein the second information is different from the first information.

58. (Thrice Amended) A network device control apparatus for acquiring information of a selected network device of [the] a plurality of network devices, and displaying the acquired information, said apparatus comprising:

a first display unit for acquiring a first information of a selected network device and displaying the first information on an initial screen of a device window; and

a second display unit for acquiring, in response to a user request for display of a second information of the selected network device, the second information from the selected network device and displaying the second information on [the device window] a second screen different from the initial screen.

59. (Thrice Amended) A computer-readable recording medium storing a program for acquiring information from a selected network device of [the] a plurality of network devices,

and displaying the acquired information, the program comprising:

program code for a first display step of acquiring a first information of a selected network device and of displaying the first information on an initial screen of a device window;
and

program code of a second display step of acquiring, in response to a user request for display of a second information of the device window, the second information from the selected network device and of displaying the second information on [the device window] a second screen different from the initial screen.

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Atty. Docket 00862.002098

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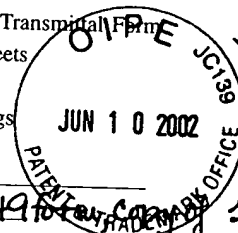
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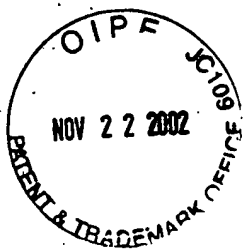
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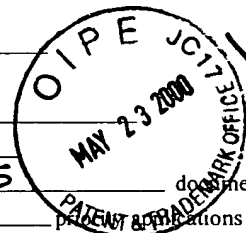
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